



769-236 Div. 6

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: McMahon et al.

Serial No.: 09/915,103

Filed: July 25, 2001

For: **Methods of Making Slide-Zippered Reclosable
Packages on Horizontal Form-Fill-Seal Machines**

Examiner: John Sipos

Art Unit: 3721

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DECLARATION UNDER RULE 131

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

Michael J. McMahon does declare as follows:

1. That I am a joint inventor of the above-identified application.
2. That this Declaration is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 to establish completion of the invention of this application in the United States of America at a date prior to May 10, 1999, that is the effective date of U.S. Patent No. 6,427,421 to Belmont et al., which was cited by the


Examiner as prior art against the above-identified application in the non-final Office Action of November 15, 2002.

3. That this Declaration is being submitted as part of the response to said Office Action of November 15, 2002.

4. That the attached drawings and records (with blocked out dates) establish that the invention of the present application was conceived prior to the date of May 10, 1999, and diligently reduced to practice.

5. That I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. McMahon

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